

GP 1714
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6/25/02
AS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF : K. Lassila, et al.
 SERIAL NO. : 10/043841
 FILED : 9 January 2002
 FOR : MALIC ACID DIESTER SURFACTANTS



: GRP. ART UNIT:
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Sir:

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-identified Application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please enter the following amended Claims 1 and 12:

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1. (Amended) In a method for applying a coating of a water-based composition to a surface to partially or fully coat the surface, the composition comprising an aqueous medium which is at least 90 wt% water and containing an inorganic or organic compound and an effective amount of a surfactant for reducing the dynamic surface tension of the composition, the improvement which comprises employing as the surfactant a malate diester of the structure